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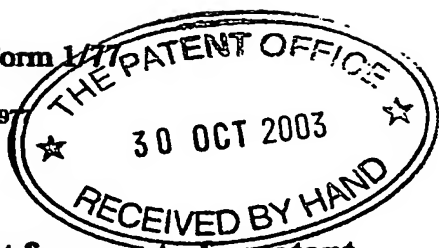
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1. Your reference

CPW/22013

2. Patent application number

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0325383.8

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Cipla Limited
289 Bellasis Road
Mumbai Central
Mumbai 400 008
India

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

7739162001
An Indian Company

4. Title of the invention

ORAL FORMULATIONS

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

A A THORNTON & CO

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

235 HIGH HOLBORN
LONDON WC1V 7LE

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

0000075001 ✓

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Country

Priority application number
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Date of filing
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Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

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Patents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form

Description	11
Claim(s)	5
Abstract	1
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Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)	-
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29/10/03

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ORAL FORMULATIONS

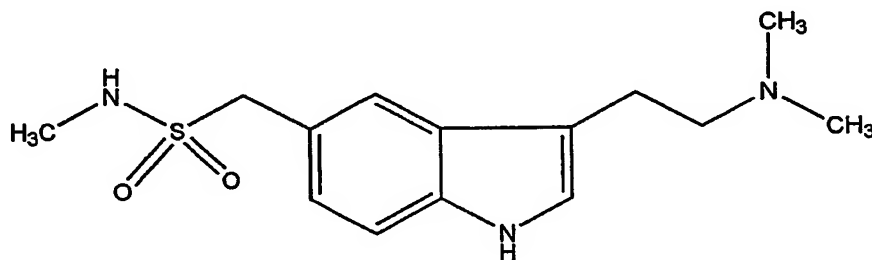
The present invention is concerned with a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising a 5-HT-receptor agonist, in particular sumatriptan, a process for preparing such a formulation, therapeutic uses thereof and methods of treatment employing the same.

Serotonin agonists, also known as 5-HT-receptor agonists or 5-HT_{1D}-receptor-selective agonists, have unique properties that result in constriction of intracranial blood vessels. Sumatriptan was first in the series of new serotonin-receptor agonists available for the treatment of acute migraine attacks. Other such agents for the acute treatment of migraine now also include zolmitriptan, naratriptan and rizatriptan.

Migraine headache afflicts 10% to 20% of the population. The frequency of migraine attacks is extremely variable, but usually ranges from one to two per year to one to four per month. The efficacy of antimigraine drugs varies with undefined environmental and genetic factors. A rather vague and inconsistent pathophysiological characteristic of migraine is the spreading depression of neural impulses from a focal point of vasoconstriction, followed by vasodilatation. The literature reports that 5-HT is a key mediator in the pathogenesis of migraine, and as such 5-HT-receptor agonists have become the mainstay for acute treatment of migraine headaches.

The introduction of 5-HT-receptor agonists, such as sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan, rizatriptan and the like, which are also generically known as triptans, in the therapy of migraine has led to significant progress in preclinical and clinical research relating to migraine. At the scientific level, the selective pharmacological effects of these agents, referred to as triptans, at 5-HT receptors have led to new insights into the pathophysiology of migraine. At the clinical level, the drugs are effective, acute antimigraine agents. Their ability to decrease, rather than exacerbate, the nausea and vomiting of migraine is also an important advance in the treatment of the condition.

The triptans are derivatives of indole, with substituents on the 3 and 5 positions. Sumatriptan, 3-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]-N-methyl-1H-indole-5-methanesulfonamide, is widely employed in the form of its succinate salt, namely 3-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]-N-methyl-1H-indole-5-methanesulfonamide succinate. Sumatriptan has the following structural formula



Sumatriptan is an agonist for a vascular 5-HT₁ receptor subtype, a member of the 5-HT_{1D} family. The vascular 5-HT₁ receptor subtype that sumatriptan activates is present on the human basilar artery, and in the vasculature of human dura mater and mediates vasoconstriction. This action in humans correlates with the relief of migraine headache.

Several formulations of 5-HT receptor agonists have been reported in the literature, many of which relate to formulations of sumatriptan. For example, formulations relating to effervescent, oral, transmucosal, fast dispersing, disintegrating, controlled release and pulse release compositions for sumatriptan have been reported. Examples of patents describing such formulations are as follows.

GB 2262445B covers a pulsed release dosage form, which provides an immediate dose of sumatriptan followed by a further dose after a time delay of 1 to 6 hours. GB 2262445B also describes a process for preparing a tablet, wherein the tablet core is further coated by a dry powder coat by compression.

GB 2162522E also describes film coated tablet formulations of sumatriptan succinate.

US 2003/0021755 describes delivery of antimigraine compounds through an inhalation route. More particularly, the specification relates to condensation aerosol formulations to be inhaled and which comprise sumatriptan, frovatriptan, naratriptan or the like.

GB 2254784B describes a pharmaceutical composition of sumatriptan for oral administration, comprising a film-coated solid dosage form. The film-coated solid dosage forms are of use in the treatment of conditions associated with cephalic pain, in particular migraine. GB 2254784B also describes that the unpleasant taste associated with oral administration of sumatriptan is substantially eliminated by the formulations described therein, and more particularly by the film coating. Furthermore, the film coating makes the formulations easier to handle and reduces potentially hazardous dust formation occurring during the packaging or administration of the drug. The film coating comprises suitable polymers.

US 5807571 describes a transdermal therapeutic system for the systemic administration of sumatriptan. The system can be advantageous as the half-life of sumatriptan after subcutaneous and oral application merely amounts to about 2 hours. The bioavailability in case of oral application merely amounts to 14% due to the presystemic metabolism, while it amounts to 96% when injected subcutaneously. Owing to the short half-life of sumatriptan, migraine symptoms can soon return, requiring new application. Furthermore, when sumatriptan is injected, side effects may occur as a burning and redness at the puncture point. Also, a temporary sensation of heat, pressure, narrowness or heaviness is generally observed after the application of sumatriptan.

WO 94/26270 also describes a transdermal therapeutic system for the systemic administration of sumatriptan.

It will be appreciated from the prior art discussed above that many different formulations for antimigraine compounds for oral and systemic administration have been described in the prior art. Oral formulations of antimigraine compounds have to date been most popular, in view of advantages associated with the use thereof, for example convenience of use, lower cost, ease of availability and the like.

There are, however, certain disadvantages associated with known oral dosage forms of antimigraine agents and in particular it would be desirable to provide a pharmaceutically acceptable solid oral formulation, which would lessen or substantially prevent the possible degradation of antimigraine compounds in the presence of moisture. More particularly, it would be advantageous to provide a formulation which could alleviate the effects of contact of ambient air and moist environment on known antimigraine compounds. We have now surprisingly found that use of a water-resistant coating, can be beneficial in alleviating such problems, which may be associated with prior art formulations.

More particularly, there is now provided by the present invention a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, which core material is provided with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.

As used herein, the term "therapeutically effective amount" means an amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist which is capable of treating conditions in a human patient substantially as hereinafter described in greater detail. More particularly, the term "therapeutically effective amount" means an amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist which is capable of treating migraine and related conditions. 5-HT-receptor agonists suitable for use in formulations according to the present invention include sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan and rizatriptan, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof. In particular, it is preferred that a 5-HT-receptor agonist employed in a formulation according to the present invention comprises sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and particularly preferred is sumatriptan succinate.

The term "substantially water-resistant materials" as used herein can include, for example, wax and typically denotes coating materials which can provide a substantially water and moisture resistant barrier to the core material. The term "substantially water-resistant materials" is not intended to exclude materials which are not completely water-resistant, but which are sufficiently water-resistant to provide a substantial barrier to water and moisture.

There is further provided by the present invention a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, which core material is provided with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials and wherein the 5-HT-receptor agonist is substantially free of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture. The formulations according to the present invention are thus stable, can be easily swallowed and disintegrate rapidly further to administration.

Waxes suitable for use in a coating to be employed according to the present invention are water-resistant materials made up of various substances, including hydrocarbons (n-alkanes), ketones, diketones, primary and secondary alcohols, aldehydes, alkanolic acids, terpenes (squalene) and monoesters, all with long carbon chains (from 12-38 carbon atoms), which are solid over a wide temperature range (fusion point between 60-100°C). More commonly, waxes are esters of a monohydric alcohol and a long chain acid.

Preferably a wax suitable for use in a formulation according to the present invention can be selected from the group consisting of beeswax, shellac, carnauba wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba oil, candellila wax, ozocerite, and the like. Most preferred waxes for use in the coating of a formulation according to the present invention are carnauba wax and beeswax.

Suitably the water-resistant coating of a formulation according to the present invention can further comprise one or more coating excipient materials, solvents for the waxes and plasticizers to coat solid formulations.

There is further provided by the present invention use of one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives, to provide a substantially water resistant coating to a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material comprising a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, whereby suitably the 5-HT-receptor agonist is substantially free of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture.

There is also provided a method of substantially preventing the formation, in a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation, of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture, which method comprises providing core material comprising a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.

It is preferred that the substantially water-resistant coating is directly applied to the core material, which can be desirable in providing physical stability and desired moisture protection. Core material present in a formulation according to the present invention is typically present in the form of a tablet, but may alternatively be provided in the form of granules.

According to a preferred embodiment of the present invention there is provided, therefore, a tablet formulation comprising a tablet core provided with a substantially water-resistant coating therefor, where the tablet core comprises sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and the coating comprises one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives.

According to a still further preferred embodiment of the present invention there is provided a tablet formulation comprising a tablet core provided with a substantially water-resistant coating therefor, where the tablet core comprises sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and the coating comprises beeswax and / or carnauba wax, or derivatives thereof.

Suitably the core material of a formulation as provided by the present invention can further comprise an excipient or bulking agent selected so as to provide the required properties for pharmaceutical use, such as the required hardness, friability, disintegration time and the

invention should typically be selected based on desired pharmaceutical properties as referred to above, such as dissolution, content, uniformity, hardness, friability, disintegration time and the like. The appropriate choice of mannitol would be well known to one of ordinary skill in the art, in order to achieve the desired pharmaceutical properties of a pharmaceutical formulation according to present invention.

Suitably, the core material of a formulation according to the present invention further comprises a disintegrant. There are a variety of grades of disintegrants available, and the grade may be selected based on the acceptable batch variability. The preferred disintegrants include hydroxypropylcellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium and other known disintegrants.

Suitable dry binders may also be employed using known methods. Such binders should be selected to provide satisfactory friability. A particularly preferred dry binder comprises hydroxypropylcellulose and / or microcrystalline cellulose. Other dry binders known in the art may also be selected.

An appropriate lubricant may also be employed, for example to prevent sticking of tablets to compression tooling. A preferred lubricant is magnesium stearate.

5-HT-receptor agonists, in particular sumatriptan, and salts, solvates and derivatives thereof, have therapeutic applicability for use in the treatment of migraine and associated conditions, for example cluster headache, chronic paroxysmal hemicrania, headache associated with vascular disorders, tension headache and paediatric migraine. There is further provided by the present invention, therefore, a method of treating a condition prevented, ameliorated or eliminated by administration of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, which method comprises administering to a human patient suffering from or susceptible to such a condition a therapeutically effective amount of a formulation according to the present invention substantially as hereinbefore described. In particular, the present invention provides a method of treating migraine and associated conditions, which method comprises administering to a human patient suffering from or susceptible to migraine and / or an associated condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a formulation according to the

present invention substantially as hereinbefore described. The term "treatment" as used herein encompasses both prophylaxis, and the treatment of established conditions. The "treatment" can also include the management and care of a human patient for the purpose of combating, for example, migraine conditions as referred to above and can include the administration of a formulation according to present invention to prevent the onset of the symptoms or complications associated with such conditions, or alleviating or ameliorating the symptoms or complications associated with such conditions.

Substantially as hereinbefore described, sumatriptan is a preferred antimigraine compound for use according to the present invention and is effective over a wide dosage range, with the actual dose administered being dependent on the condition being treated and also the patient. Single doses of 25, 50, or 100 mg of sumatriptan succinate tablets have been shown to be effective for the acute treatment of migraine in adults. If a headache returns, or the patient has a partial response to the initial dose, the dose may be repeated after 2 hours, but should not exceed a total daily dose of 200 mg.

A preferred formulation according to the present invention is an oral formulation comprising core material comprising about 20 to 100 mg of sumatriptan succinate as an active ingredient, wherein the core material is coated with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials, such as one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives. More particularly, core material as present in a preferred formulation according to the present invention typically comprises about 20 to 55 % w/w sumatriptan succinate, about 20 to 50 % w/w mannitol, about 1 to 10% w/w hypromellose and / or microcrystalline cellulose, about 1 to 5 % w/w croscarmellose sodium and about 0.5 to 2 % w/w magnesium stearate.

There is still further provided by the present invention a process of preparing a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation substantially as hereinbefore described, which

Direct compression processes, dry granulated processes, wet granulation processes or fluidized bed processing technology could provide suitable processes for preparing pharmaceutical oral formulations according to the present invention. The present invention further provides, therefore, a process of preparing a pharmaceutical formulation substantially as hereinbefore described, which process may comprise wet granulation or direct compression techniques.

The present invention will now be illustrated by the following examples, which do not limit the scope of the invention in anyway.

Sr. No.	Ingredients	Quantity (mg/tablet)
1.	Sumatriptan succinate equivalent to sumatriptan	35.00
2.	Mannitol	30.25
3.	Croscarmellose sodium	3.00
4.	Hypromellose	2.00
5.	Avicel PH112	5.00
6.	Magnesium Stearate	0.75
	Coating	
7.	Carnauba wax	4.00
8.	Isopropyl Alcohol	q.s.
9.	Methylene Chloride	q.s.

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated for the following ingredients.

Sr. No.	Ingredients	Quantity (mg/tablet)
1.	Sumatriptan succinate	25.00

5.	Purified water	q.s.
6.	Avicel PH112	5.00
7.	Magnesium Stearate	0.75
8.	Coating	
9.	Carnauba wax	4.00
10.	Isopropyl Alcohol	q.s.
11.	Methylene Chloride	q.s.

EXAMPLE-III

The procedure described in Example 1 was repeated for the following ingredients.

Sr. No.	Ingredients	Quantity (mg/tablet)
1.	Sumatriptan succinate equivalent to sumatriptan	70.00
2.	Mannitol	60.50
3.	Croscarmellose sodium	6.00
4.	Hypromellose	2.00
5.	Purified water	q.s.
6.	Avicel PH112	10.00
7.	Magnesium Stearate	1.5
8.	Coating	
9.	Carnauba wax	2.00
10.	Bees wax	4.00
11.	Chloroform	q.s.

CLAIMS:

1. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, which core material is provided with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.
2. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, which core material is provided with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials and wherein the 5-HT-receptor agonist is substantially free of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture.
3. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan and rizatriptan, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof.
4. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 3, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
5. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 4, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is sumatriptan succinate.

7. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 6, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of beeswax, shellac, carnauba wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba oil, candellila wax and ozocerite.
8. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 7, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of carnauba wax and beeswax.
9. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein said substantially water-resistant coating further comprises one or more coating excipient materials, solvents for the waxes and plasticizers to coat solid formulations.
10. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to any of claims 1 to 9, wherein said substantially water-resistant coating is directly applied to the core material.
11. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein said core material is present in the form of a tablet.
12. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein said core material is present in the form of granules.
13. A tablet formulation comprising a tablet core provided with a substantially water-resistant coating therefor, where the tablet core comprises sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and the coating comprises one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives.
14. A tablet formulation according to claim 13, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of beeswax, shellac, carnauba wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba oil, candellila wax and ozocerite.
15. A tablet formulation comprising a tablet core provided with a water-resistant coating therefor, where the tablet core comprises sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt

or solvate thereof, and the coating comprises beeswax and / or carnauba wax, or derivatives thereof.

16. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material comprising about 20 to 100 mg of sumatriptan succinate as an active ingredient, wherein the core material is coated with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.

17. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 16, wherein said one or more substantially water resistant materials comprise one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives.

18. A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to claim 16 or 17, wherein said core material comprises about 20 to 55 % w/w sumatriptan succinate, about 20 to 50 % w/w mannitol, about 1 to 10% w/w hypromellose and / or microcrystalline cellulose, about 1 to 5 % w/w croscarmellose sodium and about 0.5 to 2 % w/w magnesium stearate.

19. Use of one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives, to provide a substantially water resistant coating to a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material comprising a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, whereby said 5-HT-receptor agonist is substantially free of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture.

20. Use according to claim 19, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan and rizatriptan, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof.

21. Use according to claim 20, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof.

23. Use according to any of claims 19 to 22, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of beeswax, shellac, carnauba wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba oil, candellila wax and ozocerite.
24. Use according to claim 23, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of carnauba wax and beeswax.
25. A method of substantially preventing the formation, in a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation, of degradation products associated with exposure of a 5-HT-receptor agonist to ambient moisture, which method comprises providing core material comprising a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.
26. A method according to claim 25, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is selected from the group consisting of sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, naratriptan and rizatriptan, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates and derivatives thereof.
27. A method according to claim 26, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is sumatriptan, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
28. A method according to claim 27, wherein said 5-HT-receptor agonist is sumatriptan succinate.
29. A method according to any of claims 25 to 28, wherein said one or more substantially water resistant materials comprise one or more waxes, or one or more wax derivatives.
30. A method according to claim 29, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of beeswax, shellac, carnauba wax, spermaceti, lanolin, jojoba oil, candellila wax and ozocerite.

31. A method according to claim 30, wherein said wax is selected from the group consisting of carnauba wax and beeswax.
32. A method of treating a condition prevented, ameliorated or eliminated by administration of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, which method comprises administering to a human patient suffering from or susceptible to such a condition a therapeutically effective amount of a formulation according to any of claims 1 to 18.
33. A method according to claim 32, wherein said condition being treated is selected from the group consisting of migraine, cluster headache, chronic paroxysmal hemicrania, headache associated with vascular disorders, tension headache and paediatric migraine.
34. A method according to claim 33, wherein said condition is migraine.
35. A process of preparing a pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation according to any of claims 1 to 18, which process comprises providing core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, and providing the core material with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.
36. A process according to claim 35, which employs wet granulation or direct compression techniques.

ABSTRACTORAL FORMULATIONS FOR 5-HT-RECEPTOR AGONISTS, AND METHODS OF
TREATMENT EMPLOYING THE SAME

A pharmaceutically acceptable oral formulation comprising core material which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a 5-HT-receptor agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or derivative thereof, which core material is provided with a substantially water resistant coating comprising one or more substantially water resistant materials.

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